subsidiary bit stream, the same motion-picture signal portions being also coded by the inter-picture coding by the main coding processor;

a second buffer to temporarily store the output subsidiary bit stream; and

a multiplexer to receive the main bit stream temporarily stored in the first buffer and periodically receive the subsidiary bit stream temporality stored in the second buffer and multiplex the main and subsidiary bit streams so that the subsidiary bit streams for which the motion-picture signal portions have been encoded only by the intra-picture coding by the subsidiary coding processor are periodically inserted in the main bit stream for which same motion-picture signal portions have also been encoded by the inter-picture coding by the main coding processor in the vicinity of a predetermined number of the frames or fields coded by the inter-picture coding, thus generating an output bit stream.

7. (Thrice Amended) A method of efficiently coding a moving picture signal, comprising the steps of:

selectively encoding an input moving picture signal by intra-picture coding or inter-picture coding in unit of frame or field to output a main bit stream;

temporarily storing the output main bit stream in a first

buffer;

encoding motion-picture signal portions in specific frames or fields carried by the input moving picture signal by only intra-picture coding to output a subsidiary bit stream, the same motion-picture signal portions being also coded by the inter-picture coding by the selective encoding;

temporarily storing the output subsidiary bit stream in a second buffer;

receiving the main bit stream temporarily stored in the first buffer and periodically receiving the subsidiary bit stream temporarily stored in the second buffer; and

multiplexing the main and subsidiary bit streams so that the subsidiary bit streams for which the motion-picture signal portions have been encoded only by the intra-picture coding are periodically inserted in the main bit stream for which the same motion-picture signal portions have also been encoded by the inter-picture coding in the vicinity of a predetermined number of the frames or fields coded by the inter-picture coding, thus generating an output bit stream.